THE TRIAL OF Mrs. Eliz. Leſlie Chriſtie.

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THE TRIAL OF Mrs. Eliz. Leſlie Chriſtie,

DAUGHTER OF THE LATE

Sir William Baird, Bart.

OF

SAUGHTON HALL,

AND WIFE OF

James Chriſtie, Eſquire,

Capt. in the late 88th Regiment of Foot,

AND SON OF

MAJOR GENERAL CHRISTIE;

For committing ADULTERY with

JOSEPH BAKER, Eſq;

And Violating her Conjugal Vow.

LONDON:
Printed for G. LISTER, No. 46, Old Bailey; and ſold by all other Bookſellers in Town and Country.

W. Musgrave.

THE TRIAL OF Mrs. Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie.

LIBEL.

IN the name of God, Amen, before you, the worſhipful William Wynne, doctor of laws, vicar general of the right reverend father in God, Robert by divine permiſſion, lord biſhop of London, and official principal of the conſiſtorial and epiſcopal court of London, lawfully conſtituted your ſurrogate, or other competent judge in this behalf; the proctor of James Chriſtie, in the pariſh of St. Mary-le-bone, in the county of Middleſex, Eſq; the

A lawful

lawful huſband of Elizabeth Leſſie Chriſtie, of the pariſh of St. James, Weſtminſter, in the ſaid county of Middleſex, and dioceſe of London; againſt the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, his wife, and againſt every other perſon and perſons, lawfully intervening and appearing in judgment for her, by way of complaint, and hereby complaining unto you in this behalf, doth ſay, alledge, and in law articulately propound as follows, (to wit)

I. That in the ſummer of the year 1781, the ſaid James Chriſtie, being a captain in his majeſty's 88th regiment of foot, and ſon of major-general Chriſtie, then commanding in chief in the Leeward-Iſlands, and reſident at the iſland of Barbadoes; being then a batchelor of the age of twenty one years, and upwards, and free from all matrimonial contracts, and engagements, did make his courtſhip and addreſſes in the way of marriage to the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, one of the daughters of the late Sir William Baird, of Laughton-hall, near Edinburgh, baronet, deceaſed, who was at that time a ſpinſter, of the age of ſixteen years, and upwards; and alſo free from all matrimonial contracts; and ſhe,

the

the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, did receive the addreſſes of the ſaid James Chriſtie, and entertain him as a ſuitor to her in the way of marriage, and they did afterwards contract themſelves to each other and agree to be married, and that, accordingly, on or about the twenty-ſixth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty one, the ſaid James Chriſtie, and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, then Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, ſpinſter, were lawfully joined together in holy matrimony; and the ſaid marriage was duly had, and ſolemnized in the dwelling houſe of —— Dunn, in the ſaid city of Edinburgh, by the reverend Joſeph Robinſon M'Greger, a miniſter in holy orders of the Galio chapel, in the ſaid city of Edinburgh, and were by him duly and lawfully pronounced as, and for lawful huſband and wife, in the preſence of credible witneſſes, which marriage with the ſaid James Chriſtie, and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, then Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, was duly regiſtered, as uſual, in like caſes, in the regiſter of marriages of the pariſh of the Nine Thirks in the ſaid city of Edinburgh; and this was,

and is true, public and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound, of any other time or times, place or places, perſon or perſons, thing or things, as ſhall appear from the proofs to be made in this cauſe, and of every thing in this, and the ſubſequent articles of this libel contained jointly and ſeverally.

II. That in ſupply of proof of the premiſes mentioned and ſet forth in the next preceding article, and to all other effects, intents and purpoſes in the laws whatſoever, the party proponent doth exhibit, and hereunto annex and pray to be heard, read and inſerted, and taken as part and parcel hereof, a certain paper writing, marked with the letter (A) and doth alledge and propound the ſame to be a true copy of the entry of the marriage of the ſaid James Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, formerly Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, his wife, mentioned in the next preceding article; that the ſame hath been duly extracted from the aforeſaid regiſter of marriages

of

of the pariſh of the Nine Thirks in the ſaid city of Edinburgh, for the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty one; and carefully collated and examined with the original entry now remaining therein, and agrees therewith; that all and ſingular the contents of the ſaid exhibit, were and are true; that all things were ſo had and done, as therein contained; and that James Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, called and deſcribed in the ſaid entry, by the names of "Elizabeth Baird," and "James Chriſtie," and his wife, the aforeſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, formerly Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, and called in the ſaid entry Elizabeth Baird, parties in this ſuit, were and are the very ſame perſons, and not divers; and this was and is true, public and notorious; and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

III. That after the ſolemnization of the ſaid marriage, they the ſaid James Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, his

his wife, ſat out from Edinburgh for London, and arrived in London, in or about the beginning of the month of November following, and paid a viſit to John Donaldſon, Eſq; of Arundel ſtreet, in the Strand, and to lady Baird, his wife, who the ſaid John Donaldſon had married, being the relict of the aforeſaid Sir William Baird, and the mother of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, formerly Elizabeth Leſlie Baird; and the party proponent doth further alledge and propound, that after paying the ſaid John Donaldſon, and the ſaid Lady Baird, a viſit of eight or ten days, the ſaid James Chriſtie, in the ſaid month of November, removed with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, his wife, to lodgings he had taken at the houſe of Thomas Woodington, in Golden ſquare, in the county of Middleſex; and where the ſaid James Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, continued to reſide until on or about the tenth day of January following, when the ſaid James Chriſtie ſet out for the iſland of Jamaica, as herein after pleaded; and the party proponent doth further alledge and propound, that during the whole time the ſaid James Chriſtie,

Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, ſo reſided at the houſe of the ſaid John Donaldſon, Eſq; and at the houſe of the ſaid Woodington, they lived and cohabited together, at bed and board, as lawful huſband and wife, and conſummated the ſaid marriage by carnal copulation; and for and as lawful huſband and wife, they the ſaid James Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, ever ſince their ſaid marriage, conſtantly owned and acknowledged each other, and were and are ſo commonly accounted, reputed, and taken to be, by and amongſt their relations, neighbours, friends and acquaintance; and as ſuch, have been conſtantly viſited by them; and the party propenentdoth further alledge and propound, that during the whole time the ſaid James Chriſtie, ſo continued to live and cohabit with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, his wife, he conſtantly behaved to her, and treated her with, the greateſt love, tenderneſs, and affection; and this was and is true, public, and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth

doth alledge and propound, all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

IV. That in the beginning of the year 1782, advice being received that the French and Spaniards were collecting a great force, and meditating an attack upon the aforeſaid iſland of Jamaica, the ſaid James Chriſtie received orders immediately to join his regiment then at the ſaid iſland of Jamaica, which orders he found himſelf under the neceſſity of obeying; and, as circumſtances would not permit the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie to go with the ſaid James Chriſtie to Jamaica, he left the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie in the lodgings they had ſo as aforeſaid for ſome time reſided, in the houſe of the ſaid Thomas Woodington; and the ſaid James Chriſtie made every proviſion in his power for the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, during his abſence; and it was ſettled between the ſaid James Chriſtie, and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, that, immediately on his reaching the Weſt Indies, he ſhould make known to the aforeſaid major-general Chriſtie, his father, his marriage with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie; and that either the ſaid James Chriſtie ſhould ſhortly return to England,

VI. That the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, was and is a looſe and abandoned woman, of a luſtful and wicked diſpoſition, and during the abſence of the ſaid James Chriſtie her huſband, and whilſt he was on his paſſage to, and continued in the Weſt Indies, ſhe the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, did commit the foul crime of adultery, with the ſaid Joſeph Baker, Eſq; as in the ſubſequent articles of this libel, is more particularly pleaded and ſet forth; and this was and is true, public, and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly, and ſeverally, and as before.

VII. That after the ſaid James Chriſtie, ſo left England, as herein before pleaded, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, became acquaiuted with the aforeſaid Joſeph Baker, who often viſited her at the houſe of the ſaid ———Woodington; and they were alone together in the apartment of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie; and that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie very ſoon formed a criminal and adulterous con-

nection with the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and that, for the better carrying on the ſame, the ſaid Joſeph Baker ſoon after came alſo to lodge in the ſame houſe; that the ſaid Joſeph Baker, and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie were almoſt conſtantly alone together; and that indecent and improper familiarities were ſeen to paſs between them, which were obſerved and noticed by the ſervants in the ſaid houſe; and that, at times, when the ſaid Joſeph Baker was ſo with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, at the houſe of the ſaid Thomas Woodington, ſhe, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, gave orders to her ſervant to deny her being at home, when perſons have called to viſit her; and particularly that, when the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie was ſo alone with the ſaid Joſeph Baker at the houſe of the ſaid Thomas Woodington, ſhe the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie hath ſeveral times denied herſelf being at home to the aforeſaid John Donaldſon, Eſq; and to the ſaid lady Baird, her mother, when they called to viſit her; and the party proponent doth further alledge and propound, that at other times when the perſons have come to viſit the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and that the

ſaid

ſaid Joſeph Baker was ſo with her, and that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, thought fit to admit ſuch viſitors, the ſaid Joſeph Baker, prior to ſuch viſitors being introduced to the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, would quit the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and go into his own room; and after ſuch viſitors were gone, he would inſtantly return to the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie; and this was and is true, public and notorious; and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound, all things jointly and ſeverally and as before.

VIII. That the criminal connection of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, with the ſaid Joſeph Baker, became conſpicuous to every perſon in the ſaid houſe; and that it was obſerved by the ſervants in the houſe, that after the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie had at night retired to her bed-chamber, under pretence of going to bed, ſhe uſed to leave her ſaid chamber, and ſoftly ſteal down ſtairs, for fear of diſturbing the reſt of the family, and go to the ſaid Joſeph Baker, who remained waiting for her

in a back parlour of the ſaid houſe, in which there was a ſopha, or couch; and that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and Joſeph Baker, there ſtayed together alone, from about twelve on that night, till one or two in the morning, and afterwards retired to their reſpective bed-chambers; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound, that at ſuch times as ſhe the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, ſo went to the ſaid Joſeph Baker, in the back parlour, as before ſet forth, which the party proponent doth alledge and propound ſhe many nights did, they the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and the ſaid Joſeph Baker, had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each others bodies, and committed the foul crime of adultery together upon the ſaid couch or ſopha, and that the ſervants in the mornings after the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie and Joſeph Baker had ſo been criminally connected together in the back parlour, as before pleaded, obſerved the ſaid ſopha or couch to be very much tumbled, and as if two perſons had been lying together thereon; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound that the ſaid couch was ſo tumbled, and that the

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impreſſion of bodies having lain thereon, was made by the bodies of them the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and the ſaid Joſeph Baker, when they were ſo criminally and adulterouſly connected together thereon; and this was and is true public and notorious; and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

IX. That the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie being apprehenſive that her criminal and adulterous converſation with the ſaid Joſeph Baker had been obſerved by the ſervants of the ſaid Thomas Woodington, and others, ſhe the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, for the better carrying on her ſaid criminal commerce with the ſaid Joſeph Baker, determined to quit her lodgings at the houſe of the ſaid Thomas Woodington, and to remove to others, where the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and the ſaid Joſeph Baker, might leſs interruptedly carry on their adulterous intercourſe together; and previous to her removal, and in order

der to give a colour thereto, the ſaid ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, gave out that ſhe was going to Southampton with her mother, the aforeſaid Lady Baird; and this was and is true, public and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

X. That in the evening of the firſt day of April following, after it was dark, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, accompanied by the ſaid Joſeph Baker, went out together unattended by any ſervants, to the houſe of Mr. Henry Baker, linen draper, next door to the gentleman's hotel, in Pall Mall, to ſee ſome lodgings he had to let in his ſaid houſe, and was ſhewn thoſe on the firſt floor, which conſiſted of a dining room, and of a bed-room contiguous to it, and other rooms for ſervants; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound that there were two doors to the ſaid bed-chamber, one opening upon the ſtair-caſe, and the other opening out of the ſaid bed-chamber into the ſaid din-

ing

ing room, which lodgings the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie agreed to take; and in the morning of the following day, being the 2d of April, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, directed her aforeſaid black ſervant to get two hackney coaches, and ordered her wearing apparel and other things which had been packed up as for a journey, to be put into one of them, and directed her ſaid ſervant to follow her in the ſaid coach, and went into the other coach herſelf, with her own woman ſervant; and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, in order the better to elude any enquiry where ſhe was gone, took leave of the ſaid Thomas Woodington, and of the other perſons at the houſe, as if ſhe was going to Southampton; and the party proponent doth further alledge and propound that when the ſaid coaches had reached Pall Mall, having pretended ſhe had ſome little buſineſs to do before ſhe left town, ſhe ordered the ſaid coaches to ſtop at the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker, and took poſſeſſion of her new lodgings there, to the great aſtoniſhment of her ſaid black ſervant, who thought ſhe was going to Southampton, as ſhe had repeatedly declared, as before pleaded;

ed; and this was, and is true, public and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true, and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before,

XI. That about two o'clock in the afternoon of the ſame day, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie had ſo got to her new lodgings, being the 2d of April, as before pleaded, the ſaid Joſeph Baker knocked at the houſe, which was opened by her ſaid black ſervant, when the ſaid Joſeph Baker, without making any enquiry, or aſking any queſtion whatſoever, went directly up ſtairs to the apartment of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, with whom he ſtayed and dined, and drank tea with her alone, and continued with her alone until between eight and nine o'clock in the evening of the ſaid 2d of April, and that about ſeven o'clock in the evening of the ſaid 2d day of April, one of the maid ſervants of the ſaid Henry Baker coming down ſtairs, and attempting to go into the bed room of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie,

tie by the door, which, as before pleaded, opened on the ſtair-caſe, the ſaid maid ſervant, upon endeavouring to open the ſaid door to ſee in what condition the fire was, which had been made to air the room, to her great ſurpriſe, found the door was locked, which ſhe knew it had not been a little while before; and the ſaid maid ſervant plainly heard the voice of two perſons ſpeaking together in the ſaid bed-room; that immediately at the ſame time there was a knock at the ſtreet door, which the ſaid maid ſervant went down to open, and found it was a chairman with a written character, for a ſervant for the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, which ſhe immediately carried up ſtairs to her; and upon her entering the dining room, ſhe ſaw the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie come out of the ſaid bed-room, without her hat, and her riding habit unbuttoned, and her dreſs was very much diſordered, and ſhe appeared to be in very great confuſion; and was followed out of the ſaid bed-chamber by the ſaid Joſeph Baker, who appeared in confuſion at ſeeing the ſaid maid ſervant there; that in ſome little time, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, recovering from her confu-

ſion, directed the ſaid maid ſervant to give the ſaid chairman, who had brought ſuch written character, a ſhilling, which ſhe accordingly did; and upon returning up ſtairs again, the ſaid maid ſervant tried the bed-room door, from the ſtair caſe, and found it unlocked, when ſhe went into the ſaid bed-room, and there found the bed, which ſhe herſelf had made the ſame evening, and drawn the curtains round, very much tumbled, and the curtains undrawn; and that the ſaid bed had the appearance of having been laid upon by two perſons, and was ſo exceedingly tumbled, that the maid ſervant was obliged to, and did make it afreſh again the ſame evening; and that the voices the ſaid maid ſervant heard in the ſaid bed-room, were the voices of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and of the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and that they the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and Joſeph Baker, whilſt they were ſo in the bed-room, in the evening of the ſecond day of April, had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies, and committed the foul crime of adultery together, on the ſaid bed in the ſaid room; and that the ſaid bed was ſo tumbled,

and

and the impreſſion of two bodies were made thereon by them, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and this was and is true, public and notorious; and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

XII. That the ſaid Joſeph Baker continued his viſits to the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie at the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker, almoſt daily, dining, drinking tea, and ſupping with her alone, in her lodgings, at the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker aforeſaid; uſed to go into her apartments with the ſame familiarity, as if the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie had been his own wife; and, that during ſuch viſits, they, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, and Joſeph Baker, had often the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies, and committed the foul crime of adultery together; and that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, at length, became ſo loſt to all ſenſe of ſhame, that ſhe

pretended to her ſervant, that her huſband, the aforeſaid James Chriſtie, was dead, and declared, as herein after pleaded, that ſhe had been married again to the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and this was and is true, public, and notorious; and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

XIII. That on the eighth day of the ſaid month of April, the ſaid Joſeph Baker again viſited the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, at her ſaid lodgings, and ſupped with her alone, and ſtaid there until near twelve o'clock at night, and her aforeſaid black ſervant being uneaſy at his ſtaying ſo long, and finding he did not ſeem to be going, went up ſtairs, in order to enquire if the ſaid Joſeph Baker would not have any occaſion for a coach, as he uſually had; that when the ſaid black ſervant came to the outſide of the dining room door, being the apartment of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, juſt as he was going to open it, he heard a noiſe in the room,

room, on which he ſtopped and liſtened, and heard the ſaid Joſeph Baker, and his miſtreſs, laughing and playing together; and plainly heard Joſeph Baker kiſſing has miſtreſs, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie; on which the ſaid black ſervant did not go into the room, but went out and called a hackney coach; and when he returned with the coach, he again went up ſtairs, and when he got to the outſide of the ſaid dining room, he heard the ſaid Joſeph Baker ſtill kiſſing the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie; on which the black determined not to open the door; that ſoon after, and while the ſaid black ſervant was ſo at the dining room door, the bell rung for him, when, that he might not appear to have liſtened there, he ſlipt down ſtairs, and immediately afterwards went up into the dining room, where the ſaid Joſeph Baker, and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie were ſitting; and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie ordered him to ſend her woman, (whoſe name was Eſther Ward) to her, which he accordingly did, on which ſhe went down from the upper room to the dining room, and the black ſervant followed her down ſtairs,

but

but ſtopped and liſtened, but ſo as not to be perceived, where he heard the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie laugh, and ſay, "Ward, do you know that Mr. "Baker (meaning the ſaid Joſeph Ba-"ker) and I are married?" upon which the ſaid Ward ſaid, "Madam, you ſur-"priſe me;" that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, then told the ſaid Ward, that the ſaid Joſeph Baker would not go home that night, and would ſtay and lye with her, as "it was a cold night, and not fit to ſleep alone," and directed the ſaid Ward to go up ſtairs, and bring Mr. Chriſtie's night-cap for Mr. Baker, (meaning one of the night-caps of the ſaid James Chriſtie) for the ſaid Joſeph Baker, and bid the ſaid Ward tell her black ſervant he might go to bed; and the party proponent doth further alledge and propound, that the ſaid Ward did not immediately ſpeak or ſtir, from her great aſtoniſhment, when the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie ſaid, "Why, Ward, what makes you look "ſo frightened? don't be a fool, but "go up and get Mr. Chriſtie's night-"cap for Mr. Baker;" that the ſaid black ſervant, then hearing the ſaid Ward move towards the door, ſlipt down

down ſtairs to the kitchen; and the party proponent doth further alledge and propound, in the courſe of the ſaid black ſervant's going up and down ſtairs, he met Mr. Henry Baker, the maſter of the houſe, who aſked him if his miſtreſs's company was not gone yet? and ſaid he thought it was time; and the party doth further alledge and propound, not long after the ſaid black ſervant had been in the kitchen, the ſaid Ward came down and told him his miſtreſs, (thereby meaning the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie) ſaid he might go to bed, but the ſaid black ſervant being determined firſt to tell his miſtreſs that there was a coach waiting for the ſaid Mr. Baker, he accordingly went up ſtairs ſo to do, and, on going into the room, he ſaw a man's night-cap hanging over a chair before the fire, and on his telling his miſtreſs, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, that he had called a coach for the ſaid Joſeph Baker, ſhe anſwered, "it was very well, he might go to "bed," Upon which the ſaid black ſervant left the room, and the coach was ſhortly afterwards diſcharged by the ſaid Ward, who afterwards ſlept

that

that night with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie's cook-maid, which ſhe never had done before, having always before ſlept with her miſtreſs, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie; and the party proponent doth farther alledge and propound, that the ſaid Joſeph Baker lay the whole of the ſaid night with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, in her bed in the ſaid chamber ſo adjoining to the ſaid dining room, both naked and alone together; and that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie and Joſeph Baker then had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies, and committed the foul crime of adultery together; and that, upon making the ſaid bed the next morning, the impreſſion of the bodies of two perſons having lain therein, and of having had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies, from the ſtains on the ſheets, was obſerved by the ſervant who made the ſaid bed; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound, that the impreſſion of ſuch two bodies, and the ſtains on the ſheets of the ſaid bed, were made by the bodies of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie and Joſeph Baker, and by their carnal and

adulterous

adulterous commerce and intercourſe with each other; and this was and is true, public and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

XIV. That the criminal connection of the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie with the ſaid Joſeph Baker, became ſo glaring that the aforeſaid Henry Baker, at whoſe houſe ſhe ſo lodged, thought it neceſſary, for the ſake of his own reputation, to inſiſt upon the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie's leaving his houſe, which he, on the ninth of the ſaid month of April, gave her notice to do; and the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, accordingly, left it at the end of about a fortnight from the time ſhe firſt took the ſaid lodgings there, and diſmiſſed the ſaid black ſervant from her ſervice, and would not ſuffer him to continue with her, and afterwards went into other lodgings, and continued her criminal and adulterous intercourſe with the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and this was and is true,

public, and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

XV. Alſo that the ſaid James Chriſtie never lived and cohabited with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, from the time he ſo as aforeſaid left England, on the 16th day of January, 1782, for Jamaica: and ſince the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie hath as herein before pleaded, committed the foul crime of adultery; and this was and is true, public, and notorious, and ſo much the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie doth know and believe in her conſcience, and hath confeſſed to be true; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

XVI. Alſo of and concerning all and ſingular the premiſes, it hath been, and is rightly and duly complained, to you the vicar general, and official principal aforeſaid, and to this court; and the party pro-

proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

XVII. Alſo that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, was and is of the aforeſaid pariſh of St. James, Weſtminſter, in the county of Middleſex, and dioceſe of London; and therefore, and by reaſon of the premiſes, was and is ſubject to the juriſdiction of this court; and the party proponent doth alledge and propound all things jointly and ſeverally, and as before.

XVIII. Alſo that all and ſingular the premiſes, were and are true, public and notorious; and thereof there was and is a public voice, fame, and report, of which legal proof being made, the party proponent prays right and juſtice to be effectually done and adminiſtered to him and his party in the premiſes; and that the ſaid James Chriſtie may be divorced from bed, board, and mutual cohabitation, with the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, his wife, by reaſon of the adultery by her committed; and that further may be done and decreed in the premiſes, as may be juſt

and lawful in this behalf; the party proponent not obliging himſelf to prove all and ſingular the premiſes, nor to the burthen of a ſuperfluous proof; againſt which he proteſts and prays, that ſo far as he ſhall prove, ſo far he may obtain the benefit of the law, being always preſerved, humbly imploring the aid of your office in this behalf.

Regiſter

Regiſter of Marriages for the nine Kirks, in the City of Edinburgh.

October 26. 1781.

CAPTAIN JAMES CHRISTIE, of the 88th regiment, St. Giles's pariſh, and Miſs Elizabeth Baird, ſame pariſh, daughter of the deceaſed Sir William Baird, of Saughton Hall, Baronet.

(A)

W. H.

JAMES CHRISTIE, Eſq; againſt Joſeph Baker, Eſq; this paper writing was produced to William Hogg, at the time of his examination in this cauſe, the 21ſt day of December, 1782.

SAMUEL PLATT.

THE

TRIAL

OF

Mrs. Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, in the Conſiſtory COURT of LONDON.

DEPOSITIONS.

The Depoſition of Abraham Allec.

ABRAHAM ALLEC, a black ſervant to James Chriſtie, Eſq; one of the parties in this cauſe, aged about nineteen years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the firſt, ſecond, third, fourth, and fifth articles of the ſaid libel he depoſes

poſes and ſays, that he, ſome time about the latter end of the year 1779, went to live as ſervant with the ſaid James Chriſtie, Eſq; party in this cauſe, and hath continued in his ſervice ever ſince; that his ſaid maſter at that time was a brigade major, and in the 71ſt regiment of foot, when upon duty in South Carolina; but ſhortly after the deponent ſo went to live with him he returned to England, and became a captain in the 95th regiment of foot, then upon duty in the iſland of Jerſey, where he ſoon afterwards went and joined them; that ſome time in the ſummer of the year 1781, he exchanged his commiſſion, and became a captain in the 88th regiment of foot, then at Jamaica; that about the time that he was exchanging his ſaid commiſſion, he left his lodgings in London, and told the deponent he was going to Southampton; that the deponent was left in town to learn hair-dreſſing; that about a month after his ſaid maſter was gone, this deponent heard that he had been to Scotland to be married; that ſome time about the month of November in the ſaid year 1781, the ſaid captain Chriſtie returned to London, and brought his wife, Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie,

tie, party in this cauſe, with him; and they, for ſome weeks after their arrival in town, lived at the houſe of John Donaldſon, Eſq; of Arundel ſtreet in the Strand, who had married lady Baird, the mother of Mrs. Chriſtie, whoſe maiden name the deponent underſtood to be Baird; that from the houſe of the ſaid Mr. Donaldſon, the ſaid captain Chriſtie removed with his ſaid wife, to lodgings at the houſe of Thomas Woodington, in Golden ſquare, where they continued to reſide about a month or ſix weeks, when the ſaid captain Chriſtie ſet out for Jamaica, to join his regiment there; and he further ſaith, that during the whole time the ſaid captain Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie his ſaid wife, ſo reſided at the houſe of the ſaid John Donaldſon, Eſq; they lived and cohabited together as lawful huſband and wife; and for and as ſuch they were commonly accounted, reputed, and taken to be, by and amongſt their relations, friends, and acquaintance, as this deponent verily believes; and the ſaid captain Chriſtie, during the whole time he ſo continued to live and cohabit with his ſaid wife, conſtantly ſo far as the deponent was a witneſs, behaved

to

to her with great tenderneſs and affection, and ſeemed very fond of her. That the ſaid captain Chriſtie, previous to his marriage with his ſaid wife, was, as this deponent verily believes, a bachelor; and is, as the deponent underſtands and believes, about twenty-ſix years of age; and the paper writing marked with the letter A, pleaded and exhibited in this cauſe, as a true copy of the entry of the marriage of the ſaid James Chriſtie and his ſaid wife, being now produced and ſhewn to the deponent, and having inſpected the ſame he ſaith, from what he hath before depoſed, he doth verily believe that James Chriſtie, and Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, called and deſcribed in the ſaid entry, by the names of Elizabeth Baird, and James Chriſtie, and his wife Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, formerly Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, and called in the ſaid entry, Elizabeth Baird, parties in this ſuit, were and are the very ſame perſons; and he further ſaith, that his miſtreſs, the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and he the deponent were left in the lodgings at Mr. Woodington's, at the time his ſaid maſter ſet off for Jamaica; and it was ſettled, that if he did not return ſoon, he would write for Chriſtie and

the deponent to come over to him; that ſome time about the latter end of April following, after the deponent had quitted Mrs. Chriſtie's ſervice, as herein after mentioned, this deponent underſtanding from his maſter's brother, captain Napier Chriſtie of the guards, that letters had been received by the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, from his ſaid maſter, he, this deponent, went to her at her lodgings, No. 44, in Marlborough ſtreet, to enquire about them; and ſhe informed the deponent that ſhe had received two letters, one from captain Chriſtie her huſband, and the other from his father, major general Chriſtie; and further he cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the ſixth, ſeventh, and eighth articles of the ſaid libel he depoſes and ſays, that his ſaid maſter and miſtreſs, during the time they lodged together at Mr. Woodington's, boarded with Mr. Woodington's family; and he remembers on the night previous to his ſaid maſter's departure to Jamaica, as beforementioned, that the articulate Joſeph Baker, Eſq; ſupped at Mr. Woodington's in company with the ſaid captain Chriſtie and his wife; and it was upon that

that occaſion, that the deponent firſt ſaw him, and he believes the ſaid Joſeph Baker was alike a ſtranger to his ſaid maſter and miſtreſs; that there was a concert of muſic about two or three days after at Mr. Woodington's, at which the ſaid Mr. Chriſtie, and the ſaid Mr. Baker were preſent, and the company ſtaid late; and from that time the deponent obſerved a very intimate acquaintance began to take place, between the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie and Mr. Baker; and he frequently came to dine at Mr. Woodington's; and about a fortnight after captain Chriſtie's leaving town to go to Jamaica, he the ſaid Mr. Baker came and lodged there; that one of the rooms occupied by the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, in the ſaid houſe, was a back parlour, where ſhe uſed for the moſt part to ſit; that from the time the ſaid Mr. Baker came to lodge at the ſaid houſe, he uſed to be very much alone with her in the ſaid parlour, and uſed to go in and out of the ſame, as if he had been the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie's huſband; and ſeveral times when the ſaid Mr. Baker has been ſo with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, this deponent has had orders from her to deny her being at home

when perſons have called to viſit her; and ſhe, two or three times, upon thoſe occaſions, gave the deponent particular directions to deny her to Mr. Donaldſon; and the deponent once denied her to Lady Baird, when Mr. Baker was ſo with her. That, at other times, when perſons have come to viſit the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and Mr. Baker has been with her, and ſhe wiſhed to ſee them, Mr. Baker would firſt leave her, and after ſuch viſitors were gone, he would inſtantly return to Mrs. Chriſtie; and their familiarity at length grew ſo remarkable, that it became quite the ſubject of converſation among the ſervants in the houſe; and there was not one but took notice of it, and they mentioned the matter to the deponent, and frequently joked with him upon it; and Mrs. Chriſtie ſeldom went out but that Mr. Baker accompanied her; and this deponent hath frequently attended them to public places; but this deponent, notwithſtanding what the ſervants in the houſe ſaid, did not conceive that any thing criminal paſſed between them till after Mrs. Chriſtie left her lodgings at Mr. Woodington's, as herein after mentioned, though he thought they

were

were by much too familiar together; and further he cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the ninth, tenth, and eleventh articles of the ſaid libel, he depoſes and ſays, that about a week before his miſtreſs the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie quitted her lodgings at Mr. Woodington's, ſhe told the deponent ſhe was ſhortly going to Southampton with Lady Baird her mother, and that ſhe ſhould take the deponent with her; and a day was fixed upon for her quitting her ſaid lodgings, and her going to Lady Baird's for that purpoſe, and preparations were made accordingly; and on the day appointed (being the 2d of April, 1782) every thing being packed up, ſhe directed the deponent to get two hackney-coaches, and ordered the things to be put into them; and ſhe went with her woman ſervant, by name Ward, in one coach, and ordered the deponent to follow her in the other, and the deponent had ſtill no conception but that ſhe was going to Lady Baird's. That the coaches ſtopped in Pall Mall, and Mrs. Chriſtie and her ſervant alighted, and went into the ſhop of a Mr. Henry Baker, a linen-draper

draper there (where the deponent had attended her and the ſaid Joſeph Baker the night before, and thought ſhe went to buy ſomething there). That ſome little time after they had alighted, the ſaid woman ſervant came to the coach where the deponent was, and told him he muſt get out, and take the things into the houſe. That the deponent, for ſome time, could hardly believe her; but finding her ſerious, he, with the aſſiſtance of the coachman, took the things into the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker; and when he had ſo done, he went up ſtairs into the room where his miſtreſs was, and ſhe told him "he "was welcome to Southampton:" that about two o'clock in the afternoon of the ſame day, this deponent hearing a knocking at the door, went and opened the ſame, and found it to be the ſaid Joſeph Baker, who, without making any enquiry, or aſking any queſtions, went directly up ſtairs to the apartment of the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, with whom he ſtaid and dined, and drank tea alone; and continued with her alone until between eight and nine o'clock in the evening. That the rooms occupied by the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, in the houſe of the

the ſaid Henry Baker, were, a dining-room, and a bedchamber contiguous to it on the firſt floor, and other rooms for ſervants; and to the ſaid bedchamber there were two doors, one opening upon the ſtair caſe, and the other into the ſaid dining-room; and further he cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the twelfth and thirteenth articles of the ſaid libel he depoſes and ſays, that the ſaid Joſeph Baker continued his viſits to the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, at the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker, almoſt daily, dining, drinking tea, and ſupping with her alone in her ſaid apartments; and uſed to go and come with the ſame familiarity as if the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie had been his wife: and the ſecond day after ſhe went to live at the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker, ſhe aſked the deponent if he knew that his maſter (meaning the ſaid captain James Chriſtie) had got another wife? and upon his ſaying he believed no ſuch thing, ſhe ſaid it was ſo; and ſhe took occaſion ſeveral times afterwards to repeat that his ſaid maſter had got another wife, and that he was a great villain, and that ſhe had a right to get

get married again; and that ſhe was going to be married to Mr. Baker, (thereby meaning the ſaid Joſeph Baker) and that ſhe ſhould then have a huſband of her own; but finding the deponent would not believe that his maſter had got another wife, ſhe then told him that ſhe had received information from Jamaica, that his maſter, the ſaid captain Chriſtie was dead, and that ſhe had a right to marry again, and that ſhe would marry the ſaid Joſeph Baker, or the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie expreſſed herſelf to that effect; and he further ſaith, that on the eighth day of the ſaid month of April, the ſaid Joſeph Baker again viſited the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie at her ſaid lodgings, and ſupped with her alone, and it being near twelve o'clock at night, and this deponent thinking it odd that he did not go, went up ſtairs with a view to enquire if he, the ſaid Joſeph Baker, would not have occaſion for a coach as he uſually went away in one; and juſt as the deponent came to the door of the dining room where his ſaid miſtreſs and the ſaid Joſeph Baker then were, he ſtopped and liſtened, and heard them talking and laughing together; and he plainly

plainly heard the ſaid Joſeph Baker kiſs his ſaid miſtreſs ſeveral times, on which the deponent did not think proper to go into the room, but went out and got a hackney coach, and when he returned, he again went up ſtairs, and when he got to the dining room, he liſtened and heard them ſtill laughing and talking together; and alſo heard the ſaid Joſeph Baker kiſs his miſtreſs ſeveral times, on which the deponent determined to ſtop at the door and liſten further; and he overheard the ſaid Joſeph Baker aſk the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie how they ſhould contrive it? And ſhe ſaid ſhe would ring the bell for Ward, (thereby meaning her woman ſervant) and tell her ſhe was married to him, and that ſhe would ſend the deponent to bed; that the bell was then rang, when, that the deponent might not appear to have been liſtening there, he ſlipped down part of the ſtairs, and immediately afterwards went up into the dining room, where he found his miſtreſs and the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and his ſaid miſtreſs ordered him to ſend Ward to her, which he accordingly did; and the deponent followed her ſo as not to be perceived, and ſtopped and liſten-

ed, and heard the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie ſay, in a laughing manner, "Ward, "do you know that Mr. Baker, (meaning the ſaid Joſeph Baker) and I are "married?" Upon which, the ſaid Ward ſaid, "Madam, you ſurpriſe "me;" that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie then told the ſaid Ward that the ſaid Joſeph Baker would not go home that night as "it was a cold night, and "that, as they were married, it was not proper he ſhould ſleep alone;" and ſhe then directed the ſaid Ward to go up ſtairs and bring one of Mr. Chriſtie's night caps for Mr. Baker, (meaning one of the night caps of the ſaid James Chriſtie, for the ſaid Joſeph Baker) and ſhe bad her to tell the deponent to go to bed; that the ſaid Ward keeping ſilent, the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, ſaid, "Why, "Ward, what makes you look ſo "frightened? don't be a fool, but go "up, and get Mr. Chriſtie's night cap "for Mr. Baker;" that the deponent then, hearing the ſaid Ward move towards the door, ſlipped down ſtairs into the kitchen; that in the courſe of his going up and down ſtairs, he met Mr. Henry Baker, the maſter of the houſe, who aſked him if his miſtreſs's company

ny were not gone yet, and ſaid he thought it was time; that not long after the deponent had been in the kitchen, the ſaid Ward came down and told him, that his miſtreſs ſaid he need not ſit up, but this deponent determined firſt to tell his miſtreſs that he had called a coach for the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and he accordingly went up ſtairs ſo to do; and on going into the room he ſaw a man's night cap hanging over the chair before the fire; and on his telling her that he had called a coach for the ſaid Joſeph Baker, ſhe ſaid it was very well, he might go to bed; upon which, the deponent left the room and returned into the kitchen, and hearing a perſon coming down the dining room ſtairs ſome few minutes afterwards, he determined to ſee if it was the ſaid Joſeph Baker; and he accordingly watched and found it was Ward; and the deponent ſaw her open the ſtreet-door and diſcharge the coach; and having made faſt the ſtreet-door, ſhe returned to her miſtreſs, the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie; and the deponent then went to bed; that this deponent got up the next morning before the reſt of the family to watch the ſaid Joſeph Baker, and went into the dining room, but found all the

windows ſhut, and every thing quiet; that this deponent went down ſtairs about his uſual buſineſs, and in about an hour afterwards he again went into the dining-room, and he thinks it was then about eight o'clock, and he found the ſaid Joſeph Baker ſitting by the fire dreſſed, and the deponent was thereby, and from what had paſſed the over-night as before mentioned, convinced that the ſaid Joſeph Baker had ſlept in the houſe all night; that this deponent finding that all the ſervants in the houſe alſo knew of it, he determined to quit his ſaid miſtreſs's ſervice, and he accordingly after breakfaſt, when the ſaid Joſeph Baker, who ſtayed and breakfaſted with her, was gone, went to her in the dining room, and told her that if it was true that ſhe had married the ſaid Joſeph Baker, he the deponent did not wiſh to ſerve her any longer; and ſhe ſaid he had better ſtay with her, ſhe ſhould take as much care of him as captain Chriſtie, thereby meaning the deponent's ſaid maſter; and that if the deponent ſtayed with her he muſt change his livery for the ſaid Joſeph Baker's livery, and ſhe then mentioned that ſhe had often promiſed the deponent a preſent, and ſhe took

took a ten pound Bank note out of her pocket, and gave the ſame to the deponent; but the deponent perſiſting in his intention of leaving her, ſhe told him he might go; and accordingly that ſame day the deponent entirely quitted her ſervice; and ſaith, from what he hath before depoſed, he doth verily, and in his conſcience believe, that the ſaid Joſeph Baker lay the ſaid night with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, in her bed, in the ſaid chamber ſo adjoining to the ſaid dining-room, and had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies; and further he cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the fourteenth, fifteenth, ſixteenth, ſeventeenth, and eighteenth articles of the ſaid libel, he depoſes and ſays, that Mrs. Baker, the wife of the ſaid Henry Baker, at whoſe houſe the ſaid Mr. Chriſtie lodged, told the deponent, on the day he ſo left her ſervice, that he was right ſo to do, and that ſhe had alſo given her warning to quit her houſe, and which the deponent believes the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie accordingly did, ſome little time after, by reaſon

windows ſhut, and every thing quiet; that this deponent went down ſtairs about his uſual buſineſs, and in about an hour afterwards he again went into the dining-room, and he thinks it was then about eight o'clock, and he found the ſaid Joſeph Baker ſitting by the fire dreſſed, and the deponent was thereby, and from what had paſſed the over-night as before mentioned, convinced that the ſaid Joſeph Baker had ſlept in the houſe all night; that this deponent finding that all the ſervants in the houſe alſo knew of it, he determined to quit his ſaid miſtreſs's ſervice, and he accordingly after breakfaſt, when the ſaid Joſeph Baker, who ſtayed and breakfaſted with her, was gone, went to her in the dining room, and told her that if it was true that ſhe had married the ſaid Joſeph Baker, he the deponent did not wiſh to ſerve her any longer; and ſhe ſaid he had better ſtay with her, ſhe ſhould take as much care of him as captain Chriſtie, thereby meaning the deponent's ſaid maſter; and that if the deponent ſtayed with her he muſt change his livery for the ſaid Joſeph Baker's livery, and ſhe then mentioned that ſhe had often promiſed the deponent a preſent, and ſhe took

took a ten pound Bank note out of her pocket, and gave the ſame to the deponent; but the deponent perſiſting in his intention of leaving her, ſhe told him he might go; and accordingly that ſame day the deponent entirely quitted her ſervice; and ſaith, from what he hath before depoſed, he doth verily, and in his conſcience believe, that the ſaid Joſeph Baker lay the ſaid night with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, in her bed, in the ſaid chamber ſo adjoining to the ſaid dining-room, and had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies; and further he cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the fourteenth, fifteenth, ſixteenth, ſeventeenth, and eighteenth articles of the ſaid libel, he depoſes and ſays, that Mrs. Baker, the wife of the ſaid Henry Baker, at whoſe houſe the ſaid Mr. Chriſtie lodged, told the deponent, on the day he ſo left her ſervice, that he was right ſo to do, and that ſhe had alſo given her warning to quit her houſe, and which the deponent believes the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie accordingly did, ſome little time after, by reaſon

reaſon that ſometime about the latter end of the ſaid month of April, he had occaſion to ſee the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and found her in lodgings at a houſe in Marlborough-ſtreet, at the weſt end of the town; and he laſtly ſaith, that he firmly believes that his maſter, the ſaid James Chriſtie, has never lived or cohabited with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie his wife, from the time he ſo as aforeſaid left England for Jamaica; and further to the ſaid articles he cannot depoſe.

ABRAHAM ALLEC.

The

The Depoſition of Iſaac Burton.

ISAAC BURTON, a black ſervant to Colonel Callander, of Saint James's Place, in the county of Middleſex, aged about twenty-three years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the fourth and fifth articles of the ſaid libel, he depoſes and ſays, that about five years ſince, to the beſt of his recollection as to the time, he went to live as a ſervant with James Chriſtie, Eſq; party in this cauſe, and continued in his ſervice till within the laſt five months. That the ſaid James Chriſtie, Eſq; at the time the deponent ſo went to live with him, was a brigade major, and in the 71ſt regiment of foot, then upon duty at Savannah in Georgia, under General Provoſt; but about a year and a half afterwards, he left America and came to England, and was made a captain in the 95th regiment of foot, then upon duty in the Iſland of Jerſey, where he ſoon afterwards went and joined the ſaid regiment, and continued

nued there about two years, when he returned to England, and went to Southampton; and the deponent heard that he courted a young lady there, of the name of Baird. That about a month after his arrival at Southampton, he ſent the deponent to Bath, and told him to remain there till he came to him. That the deponent had been there above a month when he received a letter by the poſt from his ſaid maſter, deſiring him to come to him to London, at Mr. Woodington's, in Golden-ſquare. That this deponent accordingly repaired to London, and went to the ſaid Mr. Woodington's, where he found his ſaid maſter and his wife Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, formerly Baird, the other party in this cauſe; and this deponent remembered he had ſeen her at Southampton. That about the ſame time, the deponent heard that his maſter had exchanged his commiſſion in the 95th for a captain's commiſſion in the 88th regiment of foot, then upon duty at Jamaica; and the deponent had not been in town with his ſaid maſter but a few weeks, when he told the deponent he was under the neceſſity of immediately going and joining

joining the regiment there; and that the notice was ſo ſudden, he could not poſſibly take his wife, the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie with him, and ſhe accordingly remained at the ſaid Mr. Woodington's; and the deponent upon that occaſion particularly remembers, that his ſaid maſter left it to the option of his ſaid wife, whether ſhe would keep the deponent with her, or his other black ſervant Abraham Allec, and that ſhe might keep both if ſhe pleaſed; when ſhe choſe to keep the ſaid Abraham Allec only; and the deponent alſo remembers his ſaying to her, that "if he did not return ſoon, he would write for her to come over to him." That the ſaid captain Chriſtie and his ſaid wife, both ſeemed to part with great ſorrow; and he and the deponent left England, as he now beſt remembers, about the middle or latter end of January laſt was twelvemonth, in the fleet under the command of admiral Rodney; and on or about the middle or latter end of February following, they arrived at the iſland of Barbadoes, where the ſaid captain Chriſtie went to ſee his father, major general Chriſtie, who was chief in command there; and from thence the ſaid captain

Chriſtie ſent a packet of letters to his ſaid wife in England; and the deponent himſelf put the ſaid packet in the poſt; and he remembers his ſaid maſter's telling him, that he had ſent for his wife the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie to come over, as it was likely he ſhould be detained at Jamaica ſome time; that after ſtaying about a month at Barbadoes, the ſaid captain Chriſtie and the deponent went to Jamaica, where he ſoon after began making great preparations for his ſaid wife's coming over; and bought a new carriage, and a pair of horſes, and hired ſervants; and he expreſſed, from time to time, much impatience for her coming over; when about two or three months after their arrival at Jamaica, he ſhewed the deponent a letter, which he ſaid he had that day received by the packet from Abraham, but he did not ſhew or tell the deponent the contents; that he ſeemed very much ſhocked, and expreſſed a reſolution of immediately ſetting off for England; and accordingly, the very next morning, he embarked with the deponent, on board the Princeſs Carolina, a fifty-gun ſhip, bound to England; that the ſaid ſhip ſailed to Savannah, in Georgia, where the deponent obtained

his

his permiſſion to go and ſee his friends; and the ſaid captain Chriſtie proceeded in the Princeſs Carolina for England; that this deponent arrived in England ſome time in February laſt, and waited upon the ſaid captain Chriſtie, who, having ſeparated from his ſaid wife, ſaid he had no farther occaſion for him; and and further he cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

The ⋈ mark of

ISAAC BURTON.

The Depoſition of Betty Daubney.

BETTY DAUBNEY, (wife of William Daubney, grocer) formerly Sealy, at No. 14, Tichfield ſtreet, near Oxford market, in the coutry of Middleſex, aged twenty ſix years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the third and fourth articles of the ſaid libel ſhe depoſes and ſays, that ſhe, ſome time in or about the month of April, 1781, went to live as cook with Mr. Thomas Woodington, at his houſe, ſituate in Golden ſquare, in the county of Middleſex, and continued to live with him in that capacity, at his ſaid houſe, till ſometime in or about the month of September laſt; that ſome ſhort time before laſt Chriſtmas was twelvemonth, but more particularly the deponent cannot recollect, James Chriſtie, Eſq; a captain in the army, and his wife Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, parties in this cauſe, came and lodged at the houſe,

houſe of the ſaid Mr. Woodington, and alſo boarded with him, and the deponent by that means came to know them; that they had not lodged there above five or ſix weeks, when captain Chriſtie ſet off for Jamaica, being obliged, as the deponent underſtood, to attend his duty there; that they, during the whole time that they reſided at the houſe of the ſaid Mr. Woodington, lived and cohabited together as lawful huſband and wife, and were ſo looked upon to be, and by his manner of behaviour to his ſaid wife at Mr. Woodington's, this deponent looked upon him as a very fond, tender, and affectionate huſband; that the ſaid Elizabeth Chriſtie at the time her huſband, the ſaid captain Chriſtie, ſet off for Jamaica, was left at the houſe of the ſaid Mr. Woodington, where the deponent heard it talked amongſt his ſervants, ſhe was to continue until captain Chriſtie either ſent for her to Jamaica, or returned himſelf; and the articulate Abraham Allec, a black ſervant, of whom captain Chriſtie ſeemed to have a great opinion, was left to attend her during his abſence; and further he cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the ſixth, ſeventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth articles of the ſaid libel ſhe depoſes and ſays, that a ſhort time before captain Chriſtie went abroad, the articulate Joſeph Baker, Eſq; came and viſited Mr. Woodington and his wife, and this deponent underſtood that he had lately came from abroad, and that he was related to Mrs. Woodington; and the deponent remembers that he ſupped with the family, in company with captain Chriſtie and his ſaid wife, the day next before captain Chriſtie ſet off; that from the time of the ſaid captain Chriſtie's departure, the ſaid Joſeph Baker came very frequently to the houſe, and an intimacy by that means very ſoon took place between him and the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie; and he repeated his viſits ſo conſtantly, that it became very apparent that the ſame were principally directed to her; that Mrs. Chriſtie uſed moſtly to ſit in a back parlour, which was appropriated to her uſe, and the ſaid Joſeph Baker uſed to be much alone with her in the ſaid apartment, and uſed to go in and out of the ſame, prior to his coming to lodge at the houſe, with as much freedom as if the ſame belonged to him; that from the

the time of his coming to lodge in the houſe, which was about five weeks after captain Chriſtie's departure, he uſed to be at all times of the day with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie alone in the ſaid parlour, and frequently very late at nights; and the deponent has frequently ſeen him toying with her in ſuch parlour, ſuch as his putting his arm round her waiſt, ſqueezing her hand in a ſly manner; and at other times this deponent has overheard them in the ſaid parlour, laughing, playing, and romping together, and they were ſo very much together that all the ſervants in the family took notice of it; and frequently when the ſaid Joſeph Baker has been with her in the ſaid back parlour, this deponent has known her to have been denied to perſons who have come to viſit her, and at other times when ſhe thought fit to admit ſuch viſitors, the ſaid Joſeph Baker, prior to ſuch viſitors being introduced to her, would leave her and run up ſtairs, and after ſuch viſitors were gone, he would inſtantly return to Mrs. Chriſtie; that not long after he came to lodge in the houſe, but the time more particularly ſhe cannot recollect, after Mrs. Chriſtie, the ſaid Joſeph Baker, and

all

all the family, excepting the deponent, had retired to go to bed, this deponent overheard the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie and Joſeph Baker ſteal down ſtairs and go in the back parlour; and they remained in the ſaid parlour together from about eleven o'clock at night, 'till between two and three o'clock in the morning; that this deponent thinking it highly improper, ſtole up ſtairs and acquainted Mrs. Woodington of it, who deſired the deponent to ſtay half an hour longer to ſee if they returned to bed, and if they did not, for the deponent to leave them and go to bed and ſhe, Mrs. Woodington, would in the morning ſpeak to her about it; that this deponent ſtayed up half an hour longer, when finding that they did not return, ſhe went to bed, leaving them ſtill in the parlour together; that they did ſo again frequently afterwards, ſtealing down ſtairs when all the family had retired to bed, (excepting the deponent, whoſe buſineſs it was to ſee every thing ſafe, and in its place, after the reſt of the ſervants were gone to bed) and they would remain in the ſaid parlour together, from about eleven o'clock at night till one; two, and ſometimes three o'clock in the morning;

morning; and the deponent for the moſt part ſat up till they retired to bed, and ſhe is confident they were no other than the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and Joſeph Baker, by reaſon that ſhe ſometimes upon theſe occaſions ſaw them come down ſtairs and go into the ſaid parlour, and ſometimes ſaw them come out of the ſame, and go up ſtairs after remaining therein till two or three o'clock in the morning; that there was a ſopha in ſuch back parlour. That after they had retired to bed upon thoſe occaſions, this deponent generally went into the room after them to ſee every thing ſafe, but never had the thought to look at the condition of the ſopha, but frequently when the ſervants of the family have been up in the morning, after the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie and Joſeph Baker have been in the parlour as before mentioned, the women ſervants would call the deponent into the room and ſhew her the ſopha; and the deponent has then remarked that it appeared very much tumbled, and the marks, or dirt of a man's ſhoes at one corner of it; that this deponent does verily, and in her conſcience believe, that, at ſuch times

as the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie and Joſeph Baker, were ſo as aforeſaid in the back parlour, that they had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies, and that the ſaid ſopha was ſo tumbled and dirtied when they were ſo criminally connected thereon. That the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie continued at her ſaid lodgings for three or four months after her ſaid huſband's departure, when ſhe quitted the ſame; and this deponent underſtood, from her ſervants, that ſhe was going to Southampton with lady Baird, her mother, but inſtead thereof, ſhe went into lodgings, as the deponent afterwards found, at the houſe of one Mr. Henry Baker, a linen-draper, in Pall Mall, and where the deponent afterwards carried a letter for her from Mrs. Woodington her miſtreſs; that this deponent remembers that Mrs. Chriſtie quitted her lodgings at Mrs. Woodington's in the morning, and two hackney coaches were got, one to put her things in, and ſhe and her woman ſervant went in the other; and juſt before ſhe went, ſhe called the deponent to her and made her a preſent, and told her ſhe was going to Southampton, but

that

that ſhe ſhould come back again; and further ſhe cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

BETTY DAUBNEY.

The Depoſition of Ann Clifford.

ANN CLIFFORD, ſpinſter, of Duke ſtreet, in the pariſh of St. James, Weſtminſter, in the county of Middleſex, aged thirty three years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the thirteenth article of the ſaid libel ſhe depoſes and ſays, that ſhe ſome time on or about the third day of the month of April laſt, went to live as cook with Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie party in this cauſe, at her lodgings at the houſe of Mr. Henry Baker, a linen draper, in

Pall Mall, next door to the gentleman's hotel, and continued to live with her in that capacity at her ſaid lodgings, for about a fortnight; and the deponent by that means came to know her; and at the time this deponent ſo went to live with her, ſhe made very particular enquiries who the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie was, and found ſhe was a married lady, and that her huſband was a captain in the army, and was abroad; that this deponent, during the time ſhe lived with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, had very little opportunity of ſeeing what company viſited her, but ſhe underſtoood from her black ſervant Abraham, and other ſervants in the houſe, that a gentleman of the name of Baker was very much with her; and this deponent has now and then let him out at the ſtreet door; and twice that Abraham was out of the way, this deponent ſerved up tea and ſupper; and ſuch gentleman was then in the dining room with her; and one night about twelve o'clock, and this deponent thinks ſhe had then lived about a week in her place, ſhe remembers that Abraham went out and returned with a coach; and this deponent open-

ed

ed the door to him, and aſked him where he had been, and he ſaid, to call a coach for Mr. Baker; that this deponent almoſt directly afterwards went to bed, and had not been a-bed above three quarters of an hour, when Mrs. Ward, who was lady's woman to Mrs. Chriſtie, came up ſtairs to the deponent, and aſked where Abraham was; and the deponent ſaying ſhe did not know, ſhe went down ſtairs, but returned in about an hour, half undreſſed, and ſaid ſhe ſhould ſleep with the deponent, for that Mrs. Chriſtie kicked her, and ſhe would not ſleep with her, or ſhe expreſſed herſelf to that effect; and ſhe accordingly ſlept with the deponent that night, which ſhe had never done before, and never did afterwards, but ſlept with Mrs. Chriſtie; that this deponent, between eleven and twelve o'clock the next morning, carried up breakfaſt in the dining room; and Mr. Baker, the gentleman ſhe ſaw as aforeſaid, and heard ſo much talk about, was ſtanding with his back to the fire, and his hat off; but this deponent did not then ſee her ſaid miſtreſs; that this deponent made her miſtreſs's bed as uſual that day, and there plainly appeared

peared on it, the marks of two perſons having ſlept on it; and farther ſhe cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

The mark ✕ of

ANN CLIFFORD.

The Depoſition of Kitty Baker.

KITTY BAKER, (wife of Harry Baker) of Pall-Mall, in the county of Middleſex, aged thirty-ſix years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth articles of the ſaid libel ſhe depoſes and ſays, that the articulate Eliz. Leſlie Chriſtie, party in this cauſe, ſome time on or about the ſecond day of April, 1782, came and lodged

lodged at the deponent's houſe, ſituate in Pall Mall, and continued to lodge therein about a fortnight, and the deponent by that means came to know her; that ſhe brought with her a woman ſervant, by name Eſther Ward, and a black ſervant called Abraham; and this deponent underſtood from her, and them, that ſhe had not been married long, and that her huſband, captain James Chriſtie, was in the Weſt-Indies; that her lodgings in the deponent's houſe, conſiſted of a dining-room, and of a bed-room contiguous to it, on the firſt floor, and other rooms for ſervants; and to the ſaid bed-room there were two doors, one opening upon the ſtair-caſe, and the other into the ſaid dining-room; that on the next day after ſhe came to the ſaid lodgings, this deponent being informed by her ſervant Jenny Baker, that ſhe had overheard a gentleman, whoſe name ſhe ſaid was Baker, with Mrs. Chriſtie, in her bed-room, with other circumſtances of ſuſpicion; ſhe, this deponent, took an opportunity of mentioning the matter to the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and remonſtrated with her upon the impropriety of it; and ſhe ſaid that the deponent need not make her-

ſelf

ſelf uneaſy reſpecting her conduct; that Mr. Baker, (thereby meaning the ſaid gentleman) was a particular friend of her huſband's, and there was no harm between them; that during the fortnight that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie lodged at the deponent's houſe, this deponent underſtood, from the ſaid Jenny Baker, that the ſaid Mr. Baker continued his viſits to the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, almoſt daily, dining, drinking tea, and ſupping with her; and this deponent has herſelf frequently ſeen a gentleman, whom ſhe underſtood and believed to be the ſaid Mr. Baker, going in and coming out of the ſaid houſe door; that about a week after ſhe came to the ſaid lodgings, this deponent from the information of the ſaid Jenny Baker, and from the enquiry ſhe made of Mrs. Chriſtie's ſervants, being convinced that the ſaid Mr. Baker had ſlept with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie over night, ſhe the deponent told her of it, and ſaid for her own reputation's ſake, ſhe could not think of her ſtaying in her houſe; and it was agreed between them, that ſhe ſhould quit the lodgings the Monday following, making a fortnight in the whole; though the agreement, when ſhe firſt came, was for a month,

month, and at the expiration of the fortnight, Mrs. Chriſtie quitted the ſaid lodgings accordingly; that about a fortnight afterwards ſhe called upon the deponent, and ſhewed her two letters, one from her huſband captain James Chriſtie, and the other from his father, general Chriſtie, both filled with kindneſs, and deſiring her to come over to them, in the Weſt Indies; and mentioning her intention of ſetting out immediately, told her ſhe did not think it adviſable, after what had happened between her and the ſaid Mr. Baker; and ſhe in anſwer ſaid, that as her huſband had ſent for her ſhe would go, and that if ſhe got there before he heard any thing from England, ſhe did not doubt but he would forgive her; and ſhe hoped the deponent, when captain Chriſtie ſhould come to her, would ſpeak as favourably as ſhe could, for that her future happineſs might depend upon what ſhe the deponent ſhould ſay to him; and ſhe begged the deponent, if ſhe knew where Abraham the black ſervant was, that ſhe would ſend for him, and beg him not to tell his maſter what had happened; and ſhe expreſſed a wiſh that ſhe had been left with the de-

ponent inſtead of Mrs. Woodington, for then nothing would have happened between her and the ſaid Mr. Baker, or ſhe expreſſed herſelf in words to that effect; that the deponent then aſked her, if ſhe was ſure ſhe was not with child by the ſaid Mr. Baker, for that if ſhe was, it would be highly improper for her to think of going to her huſband; and ſhe aſſured the deponent ſhe was not; and that her going to her huſband immediately, was the only chance ſhe had of their living together again, or ſhe expreſſed herſelf to that effect, and ſeemed to take the deponent's advice very friendly; that from ſuch converſation, and what ſhe hath before depoſed, ſhe, this deponent, does verily believe, that a criminal intercourſe had ſubſiſted between her and the ſaid Mr. Baker, during the time ſhe ſo as aforeſaid lodged at the deponent's houſe; and further ſhe cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

KITTY BAKER.

The

The Depoſition of Jenny Baker.

JENNY BAKER, ſpinſter, ſervant to Mr. Harry Baker, linen draper, Pall Mall, in the county of Middleſex, aged twenty-ſix years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth articles of the ſaid libel, ſhe depoſes and ſays, that ſhe has lived ſervant with the ſaid Harry Baker, at his houſe in Pall Mall, for ſeveral years laſt paſt; that in the evening of a day, happening on or about the beginning of April, 1782, after it was dark, a gentleman and lady came to ſee the lodgings her ſaid maſter had to let in his ſaid houſe, and were ſhewn thoſe on the firſt floor, which conſiſted of a dining room, and of a bed room contiguous to it, and other rooms for ſervants; that there were two doors to the ſaid bed chamber, one opening upon the ſtair-caſe, and the other opening out of the ſaid

bed-chamber into the ſaid dining room, which lodgings the ſaid lady (with the approbation of ſuch gentleman) agreed to take; and in the morning of the following day ſhe came and took poſſeſſion of her ſaid lodgings, and brought with her a woman ſervant, whom ſhe called Ward, and a black ſervant called Abraham, and from him the deponent learned that his miſtreſs's name was Chriſtie, that ſhe was lately married, and that her huſband was a captain in the army, and was upon duty at Jamaica; that about two o'clock in the afternoon of the ſame day, the before mentioned gentleman, whoſe name the deponent underſtood from the ſaid black ſervant, was Baker, called to ſee the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie and ſtayed and dined, and drank tea with her. That after tea, between ſeven and eight o'clock in the evening, this deponent coming down ſtairs, went to go into Mrs. Chriſtie's bed room by the door on the ſtair caſe, to ſee in what condition the fire was, which had been made to air the room, but, to her great ſurpriſe, ſhe found the ſaid door locked, which ſhe knew had not been a little while before; and this deponent plainly heard

heard the voices of two perſons ſpeaking together in the ſaid bed room; that ſome one at the ſame time, knocking at the ſtreet door, this deponent went down to open the ſame, and found it was a chairman with a written character for a cook, for the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, which the deponent immediately carried up ſtairs to her, and on her entering the dining room ſhe ſaw the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie come out of the ſaid bed room without her hat, and her riding habit unbuttoned, and her dreſs very much tumbled, and ſhe appeared to be in great confuſion, and was followed out of the ſaid bed chamber by Mr. Baker, the before mentioned gentleman, who had appeared ſurpriſed at ſeeing the deponent; that the deponent gave her the paper, and ſhe deſired the deponent to ſtep out and wait at the door, which the deponent did; and in a little time ſhe called the deponent in again, and deſired her to go and give the chairman, who had brought ſuch written character, a ſhilling, which the deponent accordingly did, and returning up ſtairs immediately, ſhe again tried the ſaid bed room door on the ſtair caſe, and finding the ſame unlocked,

ed, ſhe went into the room, and there found the bed, which ſhe herſelf had made the ſame evening, and drawn the curtains round, very much tumbled; the curtains undrawn at the foot of the bed, and the bed had the appearance of two perſons having been upon it; and was ſo very much tumbled, that the deponent was obliged to, and did make it entirely again the ſame evening; and this deponent does verily believe that the voices ſhe ſo heard in the ſaid bed room were the voices of the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and of the ſaid Mr. Baker, from her ſeeing them afterwards come out of the ſame, into the dining room, as before depoſed, and from the appearance of the bed, which ſhe firmly believes had been ſo tumbled by the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and Mr. Baker, ſhe does verily, and in her conſcience believe, that they the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and Mr. Baker, whilſt they were ſo in the ſaid bed room, had the carnal uſe and knowledge of each other's bodies on the ſaid bed; and ſhe further ſaith, that the ſaid Mr. Baker continued his viſits to the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie at her ſaid lodgings every day, generally coming about two o'clock in the afternoon,

noon, and ſtaying till very late at night; that one night about a week after Mrs. Chriſtie came to the ſaid lodgings, this deponent ſaw him in the dining room as ſhe was going to bed, and it was then about twelve o'clock, and the next morning it was talked in the family that the ſaid Mr. Baker had ſlept with Mrs. Chriſtie all night in her bed room, but the deponent can ſay nothing thereto of her own knowledge, further than that her maſter and miſtreſs, in conſequence of it, gave the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie warning to quit their houſe, which ſhe accordingly did a few days afterwards, and at the end of about a fortnight from the time ſhe firſt took the ſaid lodgings there; and further ſhe knows not to depoſe to the ſaid articles.

JENNY BAKER.

The

The Depoſition of Harry Baker.

HARRY BAKER, of Pall Mall, in the county of Middleſex, linen draper, aged thirty five years, a witneſs produced and ſworn,

To the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth articles of the ſaid libel he depoſes and ſays, that the articulate Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, party in this cauſe, on or about the ſecond day of April, 1782, came and lodged at the deponent's houſe, ſituate in Pall Mall, aforeſaid, and continued to lodge therein about a fortnight, and the deponent by that means came to know her; that her apartments in the deponent's houſe conſiſted of a dining room, and of a bed chamber contiguous to it on the firſt floor, and other rooms for ſervants; and to the bed-chamber there were two doors, one opening upon the ſtair caſe, and the other opening out of the ſaid bed-chamber into the ſaid dining room; that

that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie firſt came to ſee the ſaid apartments between twelve and one o'clock at noon, on the firſt day of the ſaid month of April, and informed him that her name was Chriſtie, and that her huſband was a captain of a regiment, but the particular regiment the deponent cannot now call to mind, that ſhe did not then poſitively agree to take the ſaid apartments, but ſaid ſhe would let the deponent know in the evening, and accordingly that ſame evening between eight and nine o'clock the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie came again, and brought with her a gentleman, whom the deponent ſince knows to be the articulate Joſeph Baker; and the deponent ſhewing them the apartments, the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie aſked the ſaid Mr. Baker what he thought of them; and he ſaid he thought they would do very well, and ſhe agreed to take them; and upon the deponent's ſaying, that he never let his apartments to any one, till he had made ſome enquiry, Mr. Baker, addreſſing himſelf to the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, ſaid, "You will let "Mr. Baker (meaning the deponent) "know your addreſs to-morrow," and

they then went away; that inſtead of ſending this deponent her addreſs, or giving him any previous notice, ſhe between nine and ten o'clock the next morning came and took poſſeſſion of the apartments, and brought her two ſervants, a black man, and a woman ſervant with her; that the next day this deponent underſtanding from his ſervant, Jenny Baker, that ſhe had ſeen ſomething as gave her a ſuſpicion that the ſaid Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie was not a proper perſon to be in his houſe; and having learnt from her black ſervant that ſhe had come from the houſe of a Mrs. Woodington in Golden Square, this deponent went there, and being informed more particularly who Mrs. Chriſtie was, he went to a Mr. Donaldſon's, near the Foundling Hoſpital, who had married lady Baird, Mrs. Chriſtie's mother; but not being at home, the deponent left him his addreſs; and a day or two afterwards he called upon the deponent, who informed him of Mrs. Chriſtie's being at his houſe, and of the ſuſpicions he entertained of the aforeſaid Mr. Baker, and his determination that Mrs. Chriſtie ſhould no longer ſtay at his houſe;

houſe; that Mr. Donaldſon declined taking her under his protection, but ſaid he would immediately write to lady Baird, her mother, who was then at Southampton, upon it, and in the mean time he begged the deponent would let her continue at his houſe, which the deponent conſented to; but a few days afterwards this deponent underſtanding from the information of his ſervant, the aforeſaid Jenny Baker, that the ſaid Mr. Baker had been in his houſe all night with Mrs. Chriſtie, this deponent thought it neceſſary, for the ſake of his own reputation, to inſiſt upon her leaving his houſe; and he accordingly ſent his wife, Kitty Baker, to her for that purpoſe; and in conſequence thereof, ſhe left the ſame at the end of about a fortnight, from the time ſhe firſt took the ſaid apartments; that during the firſt week that ſhe ſo lodged at the deponent's houſe, this deponent frequently ſaw the ſaid Mr. Baker go in and come out of the ſtreet door; and one night about twelve o'clock, and he apprehends it to be the night that the ſaid Mr. Baker was in his houſe all night, the deponent had ſtayed up later than uſual, and going up ſtairs

to bed, he met the aforeſaid black ſervant, and enquired of him if his miſtreſs's company was not gone yet, for the deponent had underſtood that the ſaid Mr. Baker was then with her, and ſaid he thought it was time, and the ſervant ſaid he thought ſo too; and farther he knows not to depoſe to the ſaid articles, ſave that Mr. Baker after that time did not come to his houſe ſo frequently.

HARRY BAKER.

The

The Depoſition of James Brindle.

JAMES BRINDLE, of the Middle Temple, London, aged twenty-one years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the ſecond article of this libel, and to the exhibit, a paper writing, marked with the letter A, thereto annexed, and therein pleaded and referred to, this deponent ſaith, that he now is, and for upwards of ten years laſt paſt has been, clerk to Mr. Thomas Bolton, of the Middle Temple, London, who is attorney or ſolicitor, employed by, and on the behalf of, the articulate James Chriſtie, Eſq; the producent in the proſecution of this cauſe; and the deponent thereby came to know him; that by the direction of the ſaid Mr. Bolton he went to the city of Edinburgh; and on, or about the 29th day of November laſt, he attended and ſearched the regiſter of marriages, kept for the nine kirks in the city of Edinburgh, and then and there found an entry

entry of the marriage of James Chriſtie, Eſq; and Elizabeth Baird, as articulate; and this deponent made an extract thereof and carefully examined the ſame with the ſaid original entry, with Mr. William Hogg, deputy ſeſſion clerk of the grand ſeſſion at Edinburgh, in whoſe cuſtody the regiſter book of marriages for the nine kirks aforeſaid was kept, and they found the ſame to agree therewith; and this deponent having carefully viewed the ſaid exhibit marked A, now ſhewn to him, ſaith that the extract of a copy of the entry of marriage therein contained, is all of his own hand writing, and he thereby knows the ſame to be the very extract or copy he ſo as aforeſaid made, and afterwards carefully examined with the ſaid Mr. Hogg; and the ſame was and is a true extract or copy of the original entry aforeſaid, and agrees therewith; and this deponent further ſaith, that he apprehends and believes, that captain James Chriſtie, of the 88th regiment, and Miſs Elizabeth Baird, in the ſaid extract mentioned, and James Chriſtie, Eſq; and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, formerly Elizabeth Leſlie Baird, the parties

ties in this cauſe, were and are the ſame perſons, and not divers.

JAMES BRINDLE.

The Depoſition of Eſther Ward.

ESTHER WARD, ſpinſter, of Pickering's Place, St. James's ſtreet, in the pariſh of St. James, Weſtminſter, in the county of Middleſex, aged twenty-five years, a witneſs produced and ſworn.

To the third and fourth articles of the ſaid libel ſhe depoſes and ſays, that ſhe knows James Chriſtie, Eſq; and Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, his wife, the parties in this cauſe; and came to know them, ſome time in or about the month of January, 1782, by going to live as lady's woman with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie; and ſhe continued to live with her

in

in that quality, till ſome time in or about the month of May following; that at the time the deponent ſo went to live with her, ſhe and her ſaid huſband lived and cohabited together, at the houſe of Mrs. Woodington, in Golden ſquare, by whom the deponent was recommended to her; but on the very day that the deponent firſt went to live with her, the ſaid James Chriſtie her huſband, who was a captain in the army, ſet off for Jamaica, being as the deponent underſtood, under the neceſſity of joining his regiment there; and about a week or more after his departure, ſhe, the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, received a letter from him, which ſhe read to the deponent, and to the beſt of her remembrance, he therein mentioned, that immediately on his reaching the Weſt-Indies, he would acquaint his father general Chriſtie, of his marriage with her; and that either he ſhould ſhortly return to England to her, or that ſhe ſhould receive letters from him to join him in the Weſt Indies; and concluded his letter to her in the moſt affectionate manner; that the articulate Abraham Allec, a black man, whom the deponent underſtood was a favourite ſervant

of

of the ſaid captain Chriſtie, was left to attend her in his abſence; and for and as huſband and wife, they the ſaid captain and Mrs. Chriſtie were commonly accounted, and reputed to be; and further ſhe cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the ſixth, ſeventh, and eighth articles of the ſaid libel he depoſes and ſays, that the articulate Joſeph Baker, Eſq; formed a criminal acquaintance with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, during the abſence of her ſaid huſband; and at the time the deponent lived with her as aforeſaid, as herein after is more particularly depoſed to; that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie firſt became acquainted with the ſaid Joſeph Baker, ſoon after the departure of her ſaid huſband, to Jamaica as aforeſaid, by his being intimately acquainted with, and frequently viſiting the ſaid Mrs. Woodington, who firſt introduced him to the acquaintance of the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie; and the deponent underſtood he had lately come from abroad; that the deponent never ſaw any particular familiarities paſs between them, until he came to lodge in the ſaid Mrs. Woodington's houſe, which, to the beſt of the deponent's remem-

brance, was about two months after he firſt became acquainted with her ſaid lady; that from the time he came into the houſe, he for the moſt part dined, drank tea, and ſupped with her, with the reſt of the family, and attended her to public places, but Mrs. Woodington generally accompanied them; that the back parlour of the ſaid houſe was entirely appropriated to the uſe of the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, who made it a ſetting room; and the ſaid Joſeph Baker, from the time he came to lodge in the ſaid houſe, would, while Mrs. Chriſtie was there, go in and out of the ſame, with the ſame familiarity as if it had been his own room; and very often, when the deponent has come down ſtairs and gone into the ſaid parlour, ſhe would find the ſaid Joſeph Baker alone with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie there; that ſeveral nights when the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie has gone up ſtairs to go to bed, which ſhe generally did, about or between eleven or twelve o'clock, ſhe would, when Mrs. Woodington and the reſt of the family have retired, come down ſtairs again, and go into the ſaid back parlour, for the purpoſe, as ſhe informed the deponent, of writing;

ing; and the ſaid Joſeph Baker would generally come down ſtairs after her, and go to, and be with her in ſuch room alone, for an hour at a time, more or leſs; and the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie would ring her bell for the deponent, when ſhe wanted to retire; and the deponent would go to her in the ſaid parlour, and find her and the ſaid Joſeph Baker alone together; that there was a couch or ſopha in ſuch parlour; but further this deponent knows not to depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the ninth and tenth articles of the ſaid libel ſhe depoſes and ſays, that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, about a month after the ſaid Joſeph Baker came to lodge at the ſaid Mrs. Woodington's houſe, determined to quit the ſame; and told the deponent ſhe ſhould go to Southampton with lady Baird her mother; but a day or two before ſhe quitted her ſaid lodgings, ſhe took the deponent out with her to ſearch for other lodgings; and they went and ſaw ſome lodgings, at the houſe of Mr. Henry Baker, a linen draper, next door to the gentleman's hotel, in Pall Mall; but the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie did not deter-

mine to take the ſaid lodgings then, but ſaid ſhe would call again; that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie went out again in the evening, and when ſhe returned, ſhe informed the deponent ſhe had taken the lodgings at the ſaid Henry Baker's, and ſhe enjoined her not to tell Mrs. Woodington of it, and deſired her to pack up every thing in readineſs to go early the next morning, as if they were going to lady Baird's; that the next morning, two coaches being called, and her things which were packed up over night put into them, ſhe and the deponent got into one coach, and ſhe ordered her ſervant, the ſaid Abraham Allec, to follow her in the other; and ſhe then drove to the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker in Pall Mall, aforeſaid, and took poſſeſſion of the ſaid lodgings, which conſiſted of a dining-room, and of a bed room contiguous to it, and other rooms for ſervants; and to the ſaid bed room there were two doors, one opening upon the ſtair caſe, and the other opening out of the ſaid bed room into the ſaid dining room; and further ſhe cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

To the twelfth and thirteenth articles

cles of the ſaid libel ſhe depoſes, and ſays, that, during the time that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie continued at her lodgings at the houſe of the ſaid Henry Baker, which was in the whole about a fortnight, the ſaid Joſeph Baker frequently viſited her, and twice breakfaſted and dined, and once drank tea and ſupped with her there to the deponent's knowledge; and ſhe further ſaith, that one night that the ſaid Joſeph Baker ſo ſupped with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, and the deponent thinks it might be about four or five days after ſhe went to the ſaid lodgings, this deponent was called down ſtairs by the black ſervant to go into the dining room to his ſaid miſtreſs; that upon the deponent's going in, the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie laughed, and ſaid, "Ward, do you know that Mr. Baker, "(meaning the ſaid Joſeph Baker, who "was then in the room with her) and "I, are married?" upon which the deponent ſaid, "Madam, you ſurpriſe "me:" that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie then told her that the ſaid Joſeph Baker would not go home that night, but ſtay with her, as it was too cold to ſleep alone, and ſhe directed the deponent to go up ſtairs and fetch Mr. Chriſtie's night-

night-cap for Mr. Baker (meaning one of the night caps of the ſaid James Chriſtie, for the ſaid Joſeph Baker) and bid the deponent tell Abraham, the black ſervant, he might go to bed; that this deponent did not immediately ſpeak or ſtir from her great aſtoniſhment, when the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie ſaid, "why, "Ward, what makes you look ſo "frightened, don't be a fool, but go "up, and get Mr. Chriſtie's night-cap "for Mr. Baker;" and upon the deponent's ſaying, "You joke, ſure, ma-"dam;" ſhe ſaid, that ſhe and the ſaid Joſeph Baker had been married by a ſpecial licence, and that her marriage with the ſaid James Chriſtie, her huſband, was not legal; that this deponent really thinking that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie told her truth, did accordingly fetch a night-cap belonging to the ſaid captain Chriſtie, for the ſaid Joſeph Baker, and hung the ſame on a chair before the fire, in the bed room; and ſoon afterwards this deponent (by the direction of the ſaid Joſeph Baker) diſcharged a hackney coach that had been waiting at the door for him; and the deponent having aſſiſted the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie to undreſs, as uſual, in her bed room, returned

turned through the dining room where the ſaid Joſeph Baker ſtill was, and went to bed and ſlept that night with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie's cook-maid, (who was called Nanny) which the deponent had never done before, having always before ſlept with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie; and this deponent does verily, and in her conſcience believe, from what ſhe has herein depoſed, that the ſaid Joſeph Baker lay the whole of that night with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie, in her bed, in the ſaid chamber adjoining to the ſaid dining room, and committed adultery together; and the deponent is further confirmed in her belief, by reaſon, that the next morning, in dreſſing, ſhe ſaw the ſaid Joſeph Baker in the dining room as ſhe went through into the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie's bed chamber, and he ſtayed and breakfaſted with her; but this deponent does not remember that ſhe obſerved the condition of Mrs. Chriſtie's bed; and farther to the ſaid articles ſhe knows not to depoſe.

To the fourteenth and fifteenth articles of the ſaid libel, ſhe depoſes and ſays, that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie at the end

end of about a fortnight from the time ſhe firſt took the ſaid lodgings, left the ſame, and diſcharged the ſame Abraham Allec from her ſervice, and went into other lodgings at the houſe of a Miſs Simpſon, in Marlborough-ſtreet, where ſhe had not been above a week, when ſhe left the ſame abruptly, and the deponent never ſaw her afterwards; that during the time that the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie ſo lodged in Marlborough-ſtreet, the ſaid Joſeph Baker only viſited her once or twice, being, as the deponent believes, chiefly in the country; that the ſaid James Chriſtie never lived and cohabited with the ſaid Mrs. Chriſtie from the time he ſet out for Jamaica, as aforeſaid, during the whole time the deponent lived in her ſervice; and further ſhe cannot depoſe to the ſaid articles.

ESTHER WARD.

SENTENCE.

UPON hearing the depoſitions of the witneſſes in this cauſe, a definitive ſentence or decree was promulged to the following effect, viz. That Elizabeth Leſlie Chriſtie, after the ſolemnization, and conſummation of her marriage with James Chriſtie, Eſq; being altogether unmindful of her conjugal vow, &c. did commit the crime of adultery with Joſeph Baker, Eſq; and did thereby violate her conjugal duty, &c. It is therefore pronounced and decreed, thet James Chriſtie, Eſq; ſhall be divorced, &c. from bed, board, and mutual cohabitation with his wife, by reaſon of adultery by her committed.

FINIS.

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